



(U) Department of Defense-Approved Companies Affected by Melamine Contamination

(NCMI Medical Intelligence Note 082-08, DI-1816-571-08, 26 September 2008)

(U) Intelligence Findings and Analysis

(U) NCMI assesses with medium confidence that products from companies approved to supply food to the U.S. military have been found to be contaminated with melamine. Chinese milk and milk products have tested positive for melamine contamination in China, as well as in other countries. To date, however, there are no reports of contaminated food products having been supplied to the United States or the U.S. military.

- (U) According to multiple, reliable open source reports, three companies whose products are reportedly affected by melamine contamination are approved vendors for U.S. military installations in the Pacific Command (PACOM) area of responsibility (AOR). As of 26 September, there is no evidence that any contaminated products from these companies have entered the U.S. military food supply.
- (U) The Chinese government has reported 22 Chinese companies whose milk and/or milk products have been contaminated with melamine. At least two of the identified companies listed in the Chinese report supply food products to approved food vendors for U.S. military installations in the PACOM AOR.
- (U) Open source reports claim at least one company known to have distributed melamine-contaminated products in Taiwan routinely ships food products to the United States and Canada.
- (U) According to multiple, reliable press reports, Chinese-made White Rabbit candy has tested positive for melamine in Singapore and been removed from stores in Malaysia. This candy is also exported to Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom. It has been removed from stores in the United Kingdom and Australia as a precautionary measure while warnings against consuming the candy have been issued in New Zealand. In the United States, White Rabbit candy is currently being tested for melamine contamination by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); no recall has been issued as of 26 September .

- (U) According to FDA and reliable open source reporting, Chinese-made infant formula has not been found in the United States. The FDA has expanded its testing of food stuffs that may contain melamine-contaminated milk or milk products to include dairy-based candies, beverages, desserts, nonfat milk powder, whey powder, casein, lactose powder, and whole milk powder. As of 26 September, no food products in the United States have tested positive for melamine contamination.
- (U) According to extensive open source reporting, countries and regions where Chinese milk or milk-based products have tested positive for melamine contamination include China, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

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Countries and Regions That Have Banned or Recalled Chinese Milk and Milk Products		
Australia	Gabon	Papua New Guinea
Bangladesh	Ghana	Philippines
Bhutan	Hong Kong	Republic of Korea
Brunei	India	Singapore
Burkina Faso	Indonesia	Taiwan
Burma	Iran	Tanzania
Burundi	Japan	Thailand
Canada	Kenya	Togo
China	Malaysia	United Kingdom
Côte D'Ivoire	Macau	Vietnam
European Union	Nepal	Yemen
France	New Zealand	

(U) Based on Open Source Reporting As Of 26 September 2008

(U) NCMI assesses with medium confidence the group at greatest risk of adverse health effects from melamine contamination are those that consume contaminated food products as a major portion of their diet. Adults are at a lower risk because their diets are varied and unlikely to include a high proportion of melamine-contaminated food stuffs. Individuals, specifically infants and young children, who repeatedly consume melamine-contaminated products as their sole nutrition source are at increased risk for significant adverse health effects such as kidney stones and/or renal failure.

- (U) Melamine contamination in Chinese-manufactured infant formula has led to the deaths of four infants due to acute renal failure and to the sickening of more than 53,000 infants and young children in China.
- (U) Melamine is not acutely toxic; peer-reviewed scientific studies have shown melamine may form kidney stones when combined with the related compound cyanuric acid.

(U) Administrative Notes

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